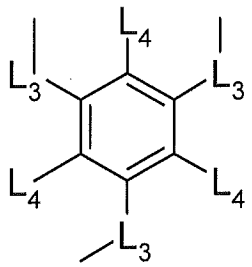
IN THE CLAIMS

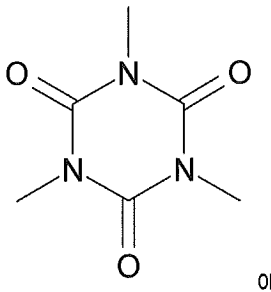
The text of all claims under examination is submitted, and the status of each is identified. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-18. (cancelled).

19. (previously presented): A polymer material comprising components (a) and (b) in form of a fiber, textile, nonwoven or film is contained on or visibly below the surface of a protective clothing, a mask or an irradiation indicating tag, wherein

(a) is a compound comprising one or more mono-hydroxyphenyl moieties, each carrying one or two bonds to either a linking group connecting the moiety with 1 to 3 further moieties of the same type or to an anchor group, and 1-3 further substituents selected from alkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms, where the linking groups are di-, tri- or tetravalent aliphatic groups of 1 to 20 carbon atoms and divalent linking groups are selected from alkylene which may be interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups interrupted by -O-; –O-; -NH-; -S-; -CO-; -COO-; -OCO-; -NHCO-; and -CONH-; trivalent groups are selected from trivalent alkyl groups of 3 to 20 carbon atoms; said trivalent alkyl groups interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-,
-CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; and trivalent groups of the formulae





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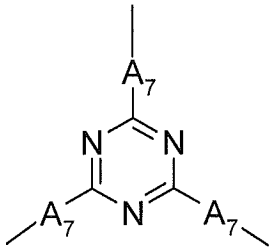
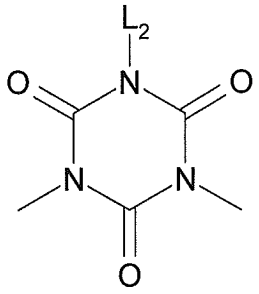
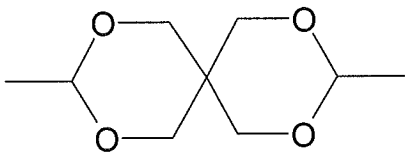


;

tetravalent groups are selected from tetravalent alkyl groups of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; and said tetravalent alkyl groups interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; wherein

L_1 is a group selected from the formulae





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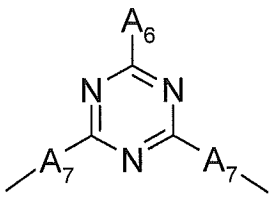
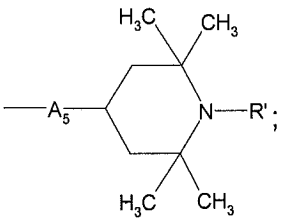


;

L_2 is OH, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl; C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkoxy;
L_3 independently are C_1-C_4alkylene;
L_4 independently are H or C_1-C_4alkyl; and

anchor groups are selected from
C_1-C_{22}alkyl; C_1-C_{22}alkyl-A_5-; C_2-C_{22}alkyl interrupted by -A_5-; -A_4-phenyl; -A_4-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; C_1-C_8alkyl substituted by a group of the formula

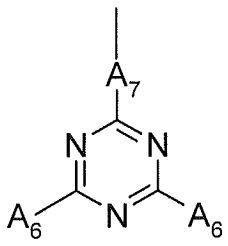


;

phosphite, phosphate or phosphonate ester groups, of the formula

$$-A_3-(O)_m-P(=O)_p(OA_1)(OA_2);$$

or the anchor group is of the formula



where m and p independently are 0 or 1;

A_1 and A_2 independently are C_1-C_{12}alkyl or phenyl or phenyl substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl or an equivalent of an alkaline, alkaline earth or aluminum atom;

A_3 is a direct bond or C_1-C_8alkylene;

A_4 is selected from C_1-C_8alkylene and A_5;

A_5 is selected from –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH-;

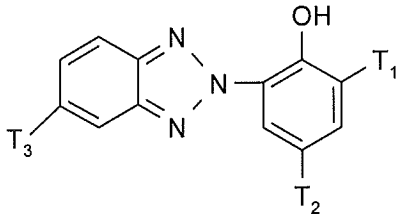
A_6 is selected from C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_1-C_{18}alkylthio and C_1-C_{18}alkylamino;

A_7 is –O- or –NH-;

R' is H, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy or cyclohexyloxy;

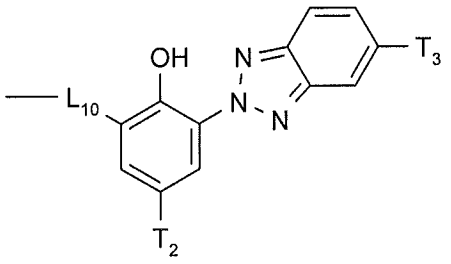
or the anchor group is C_3-C_{22}alkylene or C_3-C_{22}oxaalkylene attached with both open bonds to adjacent carbon atoms of the mono-hydroxyphenyl moiety; or

component (a) can also be a phenolic UV absorber compound selected from benzotriazoles of the formula (IIa), 2-hydroxybenzophenones of the formula (IIb) and 2-hydroxyphenyltriazines of formula (IIc):



(IIa)

wherein T_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or C_1-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by phenyl,

or T_1 is a group of the formula 

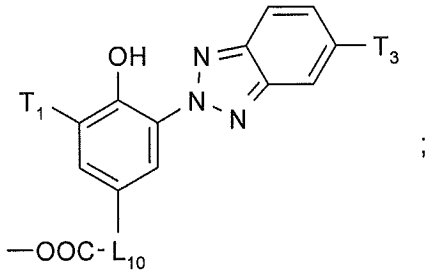
;

L_{10} is a divalent group $-(CH_2)_n-$, where n is from the range 1-8;

T_2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or is C_1-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by $COOT_5$, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, hydroxyl, phenyl or C_2-C_{18}acyloxy;

T_3 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_2-C_{18}acyloxy, perfluoroalkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms , or T_3 is phenyl; and

T_5 is C_1-C_{18}alkyl or C_4-C_{50}alkyl interrupted by one or more O and/or substituted by OH or

by a group 

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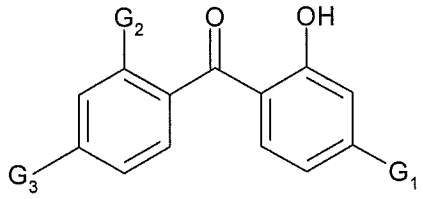
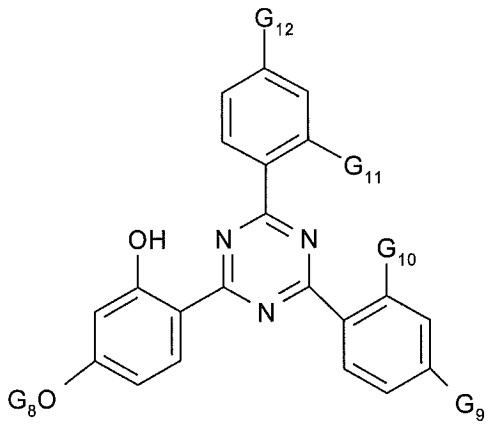


(IIb)

wherein

G_1, G_2 and G_3 independently are hydrogen, hydroxy or C_1-C_{18}alkoxy;



(IIc)

wherein

G_8 is C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or is C_4-C_{18}alkyl which is interrupted by COO or OCO or O, or is interrupted by O and substituted by OH; and

G_9, G_{10}, G_{11} and G_{12} independently are hydrogen, methyl, hydroxy or OG_8; and G_9 and G_{12} also comprise phenyl; and

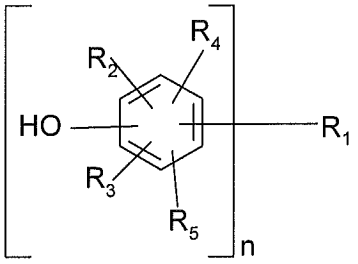
(b) is a colour former,

wherein said protective clothing, mask or irradiation indicating tag undergoes an irreversible color change upon exposure to irradiation.

20. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 19, , wherein the irradiation is of higher energy than visible light and is selected from ultraviolet light, X-ray, gamma radiation and particle radiation .

21. (cancelled).

22. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 19, wherein component (a) is a compound of the formula (A)



(A)

wherein

R_2 is methyl or tertiary C_4-C_{12} alkyl;

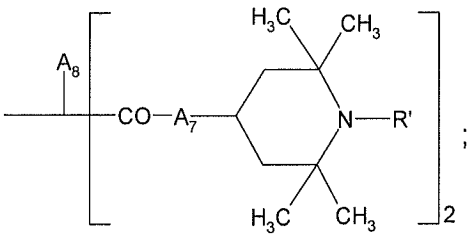
R_3, R_4 and R_5 independently are hydrogen, methyl or tertiary C_4-C_{12}alkyl;

n is from the range 1-4:

when n is 1,

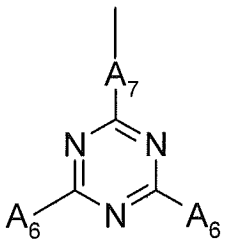
R_1 is tertiary C_4-C_{12}alkyl; C_1-C_{22}alkyl-A_5-; C_2-C_{22}alkyl interrupted by -A_5-; -A_5-phenyl; -A_5-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl; -A_4-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy, and optionally further by

C_1-C_{12}alkyl; or R_1 together with R_5 is C_3-C_{22}alkylene or C_3-C_{22}oxaalkylene attached with both open bonds to adjacent carbon atoms of the mono-hydroxyphenyl moiety; or is a group of one the formulae



;

$-A_3-(O)_m-P(=O)_p(OA_1)(OA_2)$; or



;

where m and p independently are 0 or 1;

A_1 and A_2 independently are C_1-C_{12}alkyl or phenyl or phenyl substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl or an equivalent of an alkaline, alkaline earth or aluminum atom;

A_3 is a direct bond or C_1-C_8alkylene;

A_4 is selected from C_1-C_8alkylene, –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH-;

A_5 is selected from –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH- ;

A_6 is selected from C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_1-C_{18}alkylthio and C_1-C_{18}alkylamino;

A_7 is –O- or –NH-;

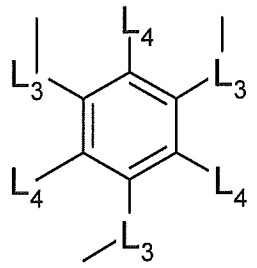
A_8 is C_1-C_7alkyl; and

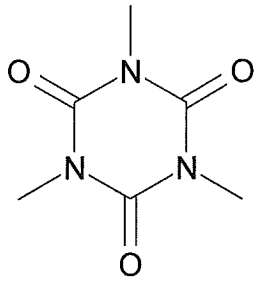
R' is C_1-C_{18}alkyl;

when n is 2, R_1 is C_1-C_{20}alkylene which may be interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, -L_1-, phenylene, phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy;

divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups interrupted by –O-; –O-; -NH-; -S-; -CO-; -COO-; -OCO-; -NHCO-; or -CONH-;

when n is 3, R_1 is trivalent alkyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms; said trivalent alkyl interrupted or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, -L_1-, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; or trivalent groups of the formulae





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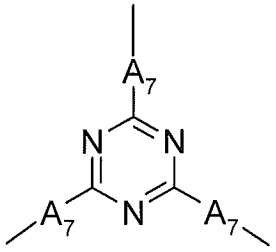
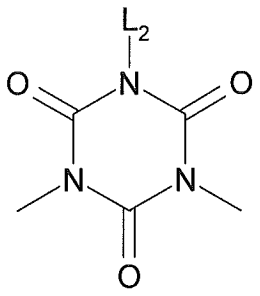
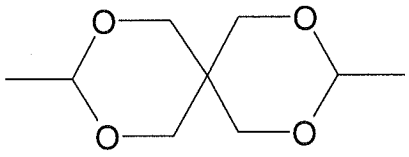


;

when n is 4, R_1 is tetravalent alkyl of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; said tetravalent alkyl interrupted or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, -L_1-, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy;

L_1 is a group selected from the formulae





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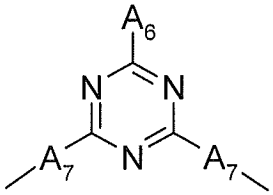


;

L_2 is OH, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl; or C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkoxy;

L_3 independently are C_1-C_4alkylene; and

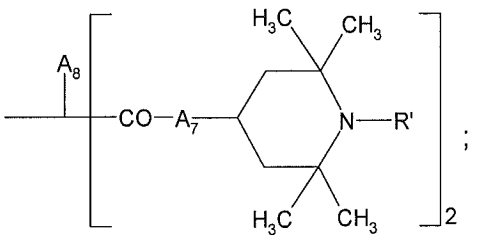
L_4 independently are H or C_1-C_4alkyl.

23. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 22, wherein R_2 is methyl, tert-butyl or tert-pentyl;

R_3, R_4 and R_5 independently are hydrogen, methyl, tert-butyl or tert-pentyl;

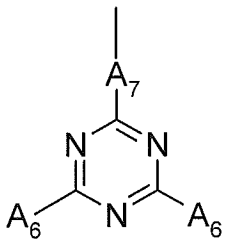
when n is 1,

R_1 is tertiary butyl, tertiary pentyl; C_1-C_{22}alkyl-A_5-; C_2-C_{22}alkyl interrupted by -A_5-; -A_5-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl; -A_4-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_3-C_4alkenoyloxy and C_1-C_{12}alkyl; or R_1 together with R_5 is C_3-C_{22}alkylene or C_3-C_{22}oxaalkylene attached with both open bonds to adjacent carbon atoms of the mono-hydroxyphenyl moiety; or R_1 is a group of one the formulae



;

$-A_3-P(=O)(OA_1)(OA_2)$; or



;

where

A_1 and A_2 independently are C_1-C_4alkyl or an equivalent of a metal atom selected from Li, Na, K, ½ Mg, ½ Ca and 1/3 Al;

A_3 is methylene;

A_4 is C_1-C_8alkylene;

A_5 is selected from –O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH-;

A_6 is selected from C_4-C_{18}alkylthio and C_4-C_{18}alkylamino;

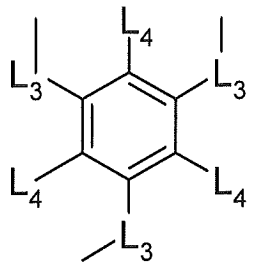
A_7 is –NH-;

A_8 is C_1-C_7alkyl; and

R' is C_1-C_{18}alkyl;

when n is 2, R_1 is C_1-C_{12}alkylene; C_2-C_{20}alkylene interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH- or -L_1-; or R_1 is a divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene group; or R_1 is –O-; -NH-; or -S-;

when n is 3, R_1 is trivalent alkyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms; said trivalent alkyl interrupted by -O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl; or R_1 is a trivalent group of one of the formulae



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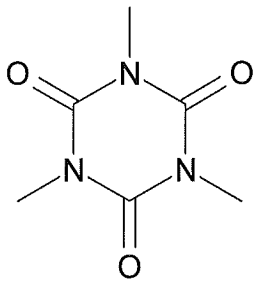
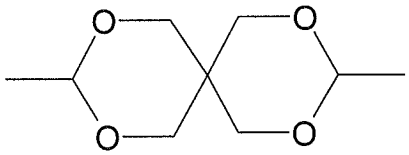


;

when n is 4, R_1 is tetravalent alkyl of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; or said tetravalent alkyl interrupted by –O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- or -CONH-; and

L_1 is a group of the formula  ;

L_3 independently are C_1-C_4alkylene; and

L_4 independently are H or C_1-C_4alkyl.

24. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 19, wherein the colour former is a triphenylmethane, lactone, benzoxazine, spiropyran, fluoran or phthalide.

25. (currently amended): The polymer material according to claim 19, wherein the polymeric material contains 0.001 to 10 % by weight of ~~the phenolic antioxidant and/or phenolic UVA~~ component (a), based on the total weight of the polymeric material.

26. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 19, wherein the polymeric material contains 0.001 to 10 % by weight of the colour former with respect to the total weight of the polymeric material.

27. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 26, wherein the polymeric material contains 0.01 to 5 % by weight of the colour former with respect to the total weight of the polymeric material.

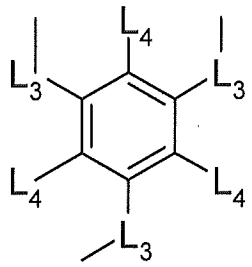
28. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 19, wherein the polymeric material is a transparent thermoplast.

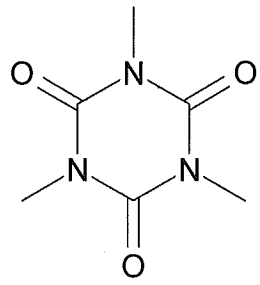
29. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 19, wherein the polymeric material is selected from styrene acrylonitrile copolymer, polyolefin, polyvinylchloride, polychlorobutadiene, polyesters and glycol modified polyesters, polyacrylics, polystyrene, acrylonitrile styrene acrylate copolymer, polyamide, acrylonitrile styrene butadiene copolymer, polycarbonate and blends or alloys thereof.

30. (previously presented): Process for monitoring irradiation by X-ray or radioactive material, which process comprises placing a tag or sample of a polymer material comprising components (a) and (b) in the site to be controlled, and subsequently checking the colour of the tag or sample,

wherein

(a) is a compound comprising one or more mono-hydroxyphenyl moieties, each carrying one or two bonds to either a linking group connecting the moiety with 1 to 3 further moieties of the same type or to an anchor group, and 1-3 further substituents selected from alkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms, where the linking groups are di-, tri- or tetravalent aliphatic groups of 1 to 20 carbon atoms and divalent linking groups are selected from alkylene which may be interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups interrupted by -O-; –O-; -NH-; -S-; -CO-; -COO-; -OCO-; -NHCO-; and -CONH-; trivalent groups are selected from trivalent alkyl groups of 3 to 20 carbon atoms; said trivalent alkyl groups interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-,
-CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; and trivalent groups of the formulae





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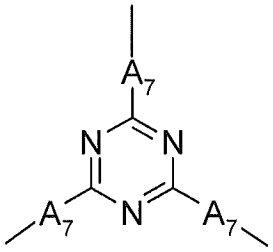
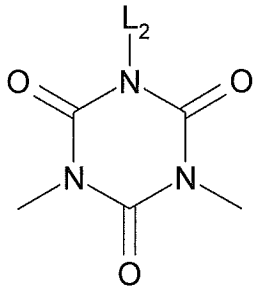
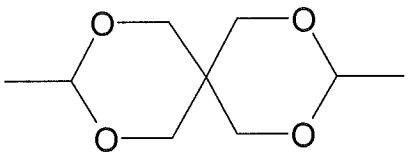


;

tetravalent groups are selected from tetravalent alkyl groups of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; and said tetravalent alkyl groups interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; wherein

L_1 is a group selected from the formulae





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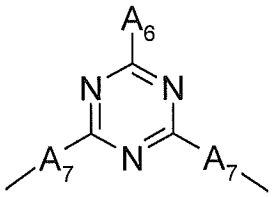


;

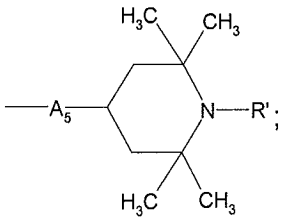
L_2 is OH, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl; C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkoxy;

L_3 independently are C_1-C_4alkylene;

L_4 independently are H or C_1-C_4alkyl; and

anchor groups are selected from

C_1-C_{22}alkyl; C_1-C_{22}alkyl-A_5-; C_2-C_{22}alkyl interrupted by -A_5-; -A_4-phenyl; -A_4-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; C_1-C_8alkyl substituted by a group of the formula

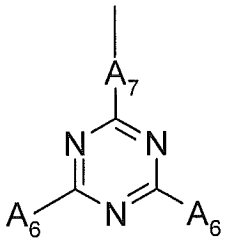


;

phosphite, phosphate or phosphonate ester groups, of the formula

$$-A_3-(O)_m-P(=O)_p(OA_1)(OA_2);$$

or the anchor group is of the formula



where m and p independently are 0 or 1;

A_1 and A_2 independently are C_1-C_{12}alkyl or phenyl or phenyl substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl or an equivalent of an alkaline, alkaline earth or aluminum atom;

A_3 is a direct bond or C_1-C_8alkylene;

A_4 is selected from C_1-C_8alkylene and A_5;

A_5 is selected from –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH-;

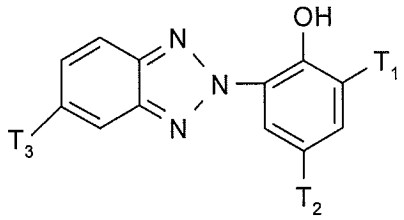
A_6 is selected from C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_1-C_{18}alkylthio and C_1-C_{18}alkylamino;

A_7 is –O- or –NH-;

R' is H, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy or cyclohexyloxy;

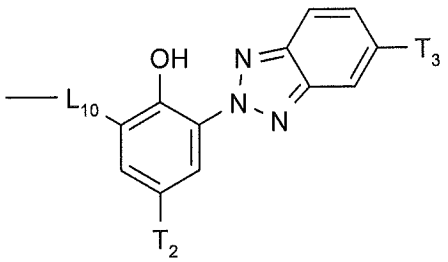
or the anchor group is C_3-C_{22}alkylene or C_3-C_{22}oxaalkylene attached with both open bonds to adjacent carbon atoms of the mono-hydroxyphenyl moiety; or

component (a) can also be a phenolic UV absorber compound selected from benzotriazoles of the formula (IIa), 2-hydroxybenzophenones of the formula (IIb) and 2-hydroxyphenyltriazines of formula (IIc):



(IIa)

wherein T_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or C_1-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by phenyl,

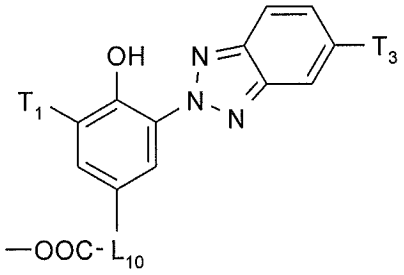
or T_1 is a group of the formula  ;

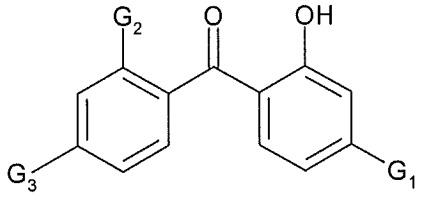
L_{10} is a divalent group $-(CH_2)_n-$, where n is from the range 1-8;

T_2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or is C_1-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by $COOT_5$, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, hydroxyl, phenyl or C_2-C_{18}acyloxy;

T_3 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_2-C_{18}acyloxy, perfluoroalkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms , or T_3 is phenyl; and

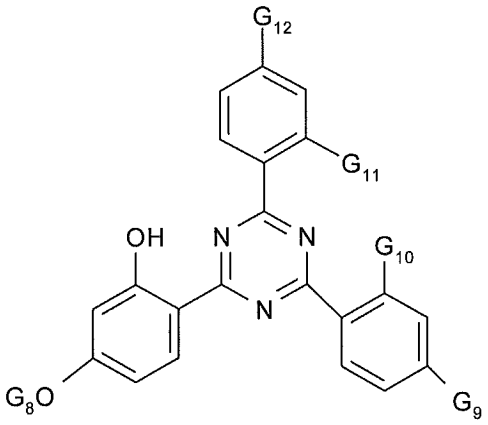
T_5 is C_1-C_{18}alkyl or C_4-C_{50}alkyl interrupted by one or more O and/or substituted by OH or

by a group  ;

 (IIb)

wherein

G_1, G_2 and G_3 independently are hydrogen, hydroxy or C_1-C_{18}alkoxy;



(IIc)

wherein

G_8 is C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or is C_4-C_{18}alkyl which is interrupted by COO or OCO or O, or is interrupted by O and substituted by OH; and

G_9, G_{10}, G_{11} and G_{12} independently are hydrogen, methyl, hydroxy or OG_8; and G_9 and G_{12} also comprise phenyl; and

(b) is a colour former.

31. (previously presented): The process according to claim 30, wherein a polymer material comprising components a) and b) are in the form of a fiber, textile, nonwoven or film contained on or visibly below a surface of a protective clothing, a mask or an irradiation indicating tag,
and said protective clothing, mask or irradiation indicating tag undergoes an irreversible color change upon exposure to irradiation.

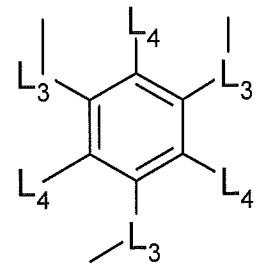
32. (previously presented): The polymer material according to claim 20, wherein the irradiation is from ultraviolet laser or ultraviolet lamp radiation of 285 to 400 nm, electron radiation, X-ray and gamma radiation.

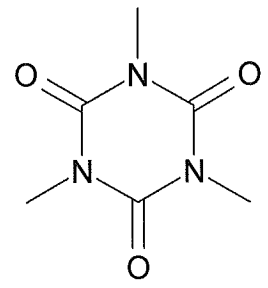
33. (new): Process for monitoring irradiation, which process comprises placing a tag or sample of a polymer material comprising components (a) and (b) in the site to be controlled,

exposing said tag or sample to irradiation from ultraviolet laser or ultraviolet lamp radiation of 285 to 400 nm, electron radiation, X-ray or gamma radiation,
and
subsequently checking the colour of the tag or sample,

wherein

(a) is a compound comprising one or more mono-hydroxyphenyl moieties, each carrying one or two bonds to either a linking group connecting the moiety with 1 to 3 further moieties of the same type or to an anchor group, and 1-3 further substituents selected from alkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms, where the linking groups are di-, tri- or tetravalent aliphatic groups of 1 to 20 carbon atoms and divalent linking groups are selected from alkylene which may be interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups interrupted by -O-; –O-; -NH-; -S-; -CO-; -COO-; -OCO-; -NHCO-; and -CONH-; trivalent groups are selected from trivalent alkyl groups of 3 to 20 carbon atoms; said trivalent alkyl groups interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-,
-CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; and trivalent groups of the formulae





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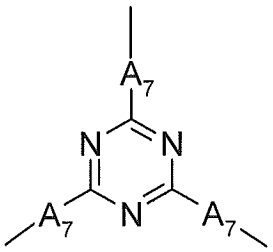
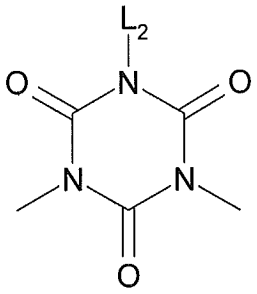
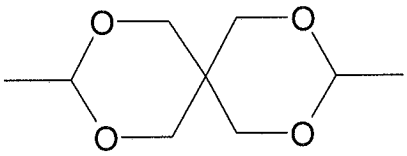


;

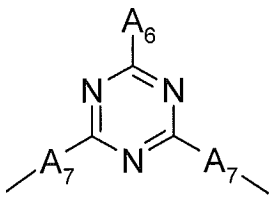
tetravalent groups are selected from tetravalent alkyl groups of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; and said tetravalent alkyl groups interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, a group L_1, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; wherein

L_1 is a group selected from the formulae





or



;

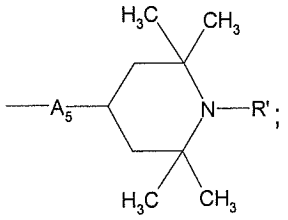
L_2 is OH, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl; C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkoxy;

L_3 independently are C_1-C_4alkylene;

L_4 independently are H or C_1-C_4alkyl; and

anchor groups are selected from

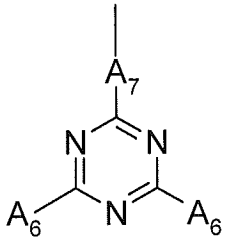
C_1-C_{22}alkyl; C_1-C_{22}alkyl-A_5-; C_2-C_{22}alkyl interrupted by -A_5-; -A_4-phenyl; -A_4-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; C_1-C_8alkyl substituted by a group of the formula



phosphite, phosphate or phosphonate ester groups, of the formula

$$-A_3-(O)_m-P(=O)_p(OA_1)(OA_2);$$

or the anchor group is of the formula



where m and p independently are 0 or 1;

A_1 and A_2 independently are C_1-C_{12}alkyl or phenyl or phenyl substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl or an equivalent of an alkaline, alkaline earth or aluminum atom;

A_3 is a direct bond or C_1-C_8alkylene;

A_4 is selected from C_1-C_8alkylene and A_5;

A_5 is selected from –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH-;

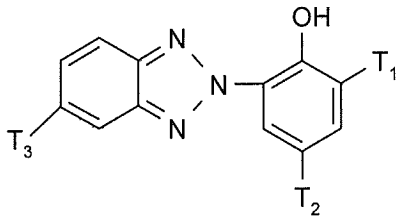
A_6 is selected from C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_1-C_{18}alkylthio and C_1-C_{18}alkylamino;

A_7 is –O- or –NH-;

R' is H, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy or cyclohexyloxy;

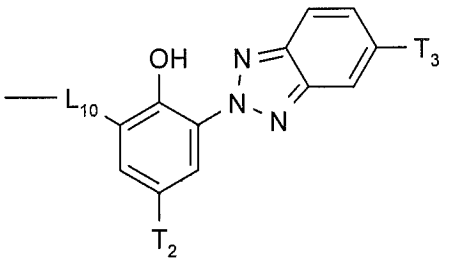
or the anchor group is C_3-C_{22}alkylene or C_3-C_{22}oxaalkylene attached with both open bonds to adjacent carbon atoms of the mono-hydroxyphenyl moiety; or

component (a) can also be a phenolic UV absorber compound selected from benzotriazoles of the formula (IIa), 2-hydroxybenzophenones of the formula (IIb) and 2-hydroxyphenyltriazines of formula (IIc):



(IIa)

wherein T_1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or C_1-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by phenyl,

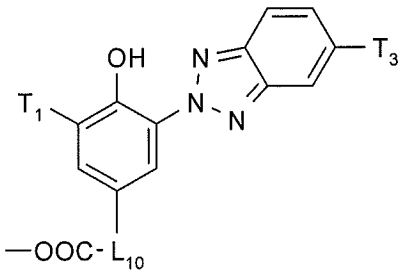
or T_1 is a group of the formula  ;

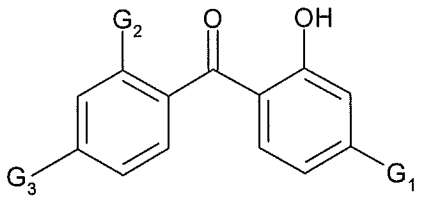
L_{10} is a divalent group $-(CH_2)_n-$, where n is from the range 1-8;

T_2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or is C_1-C_{18}alkyl which is substituted by $COOT_5$, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, hydroxyl, phenyl or C_2-C_{18}acyloxy;

T_3 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_{18}alkyl, C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_2-C_{18}acyloxy, perfluoroalkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms , or T_3 is phenyl; and

T_5 is C_1-C_{18}alkyl or C_4-C_{50}alkyl interrupted by one or more O and/or substituted by OH or

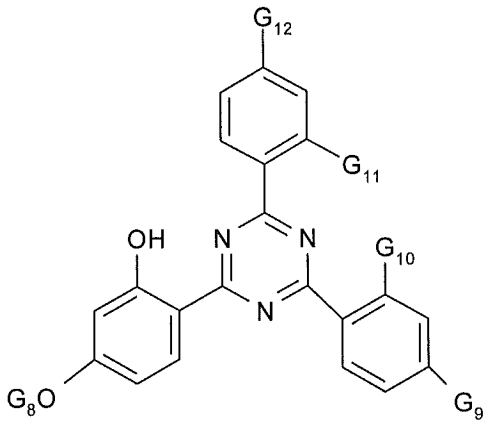
by a group  ;



(IIb)

wherein

G_1, G_2 and G_3 independently are hydrogen, hydroxy or C_1-C_{18}alkoxy;



(IIc)

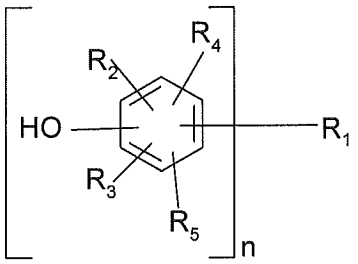
wherein

G_8 is C_1-C_{18}alkyl, or is C_4-C_{18}alkyl which is interrupted by COO or OCO or O, or is interrupted by O and substituted by OH; and

G_9, G_{10}, G_{11} and G_{12} independently are hydrogen, methyl, hydroxy or OG_8; and G_9 and G_{12} also comprise phenyl; and

(b) is a colour former.

34. (new): The process according to claim 33, wherein component (a) is a compound of the formula (A)



(A)

wherein

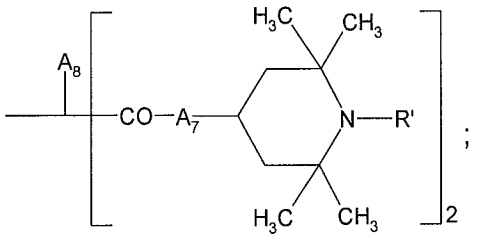
R_2 is methyl or tertiary C_4-C_{12} alkyl;

R_3, R_4 and R_5 independently are hydrogen, methyl or tertiary C_4-C_{12}alkyl;

n is from the range 1-4:

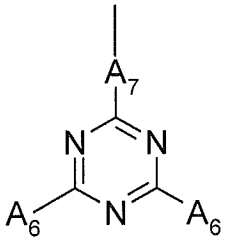
when n is 1,

R_1 is tertiary C_4-C_{12}alkyl; C_1-C_{22}alkyl-A_5-; C_2-C_{22}alkyl interrupted by -A_5-; -A_5-phenyl; -A_5-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl; -A_4-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy, and optionally further by C_1-C_{12}alkyl; or R_1 together with R_5 is C_3-C_{22}alkylene or C_3-C_{22}oxaalkylene attached with both open bonds to adjacent carbon atoms of the mono-hydroxyphenyl moiety; or is a group of one the formulae



;

-A_3-$(O)_m$-$P(=O)_p(OA_1)(OA_2)$; or



;

where m and p independently are 0 or 1;

A_1 and A_2 independently are C_1-C_{12}alkyl or phenyl or phenyl substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl or an equivalent of an alkaline, alkaline earth or aluminum atom;

A_3 is a direct bond or C_1-C_8alkylene;

A_4 is selected from C_1-C_8alkylene, –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH-;

A_5 is selected from –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH- ;

A_6 is selected from C_1-C_{18}alkoxy, C_1-C_{18}alkylthio and C_1-C_{18}alkylamino;

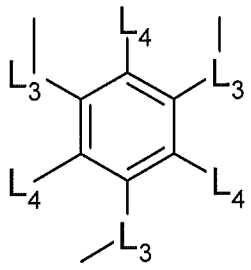
A_7 is –O- or –NH-;

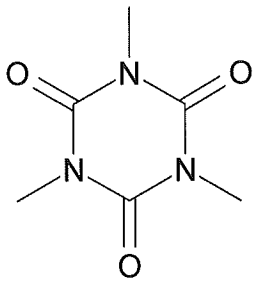
A_8 is C_1-C_7alkyl; and

R' is C_1-C_{18}alkyl;

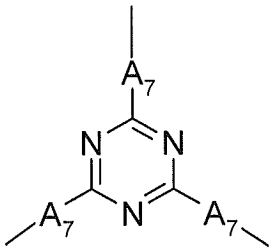
when n is 2, R_1 is C_1-C_{20}alkylene which may be interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, -L_1-, phenylene, phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy;
divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups; divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene groups interrupted by –O-; –O-; -NH-; -S-; -CO-; -COO-; -OCO-; -NHCO-; or -CONH-;

when n is 3, R_1 is trivalent alkyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms; said trivalent alkyl interrupted or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, -L_1-, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy; or trivalent groups of the formulae





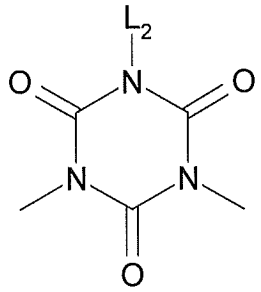
or

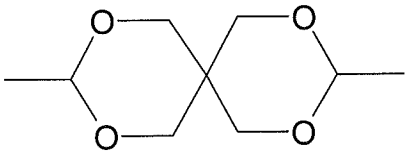


;

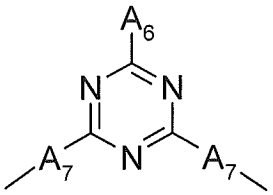
when n is 4, R_1 is tetravalent alkyl of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; said tetravalent alkyl interrupted or end-capped with –O-, -NH-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, -L_1-, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl and/or C_1-C_{12}alkoxy and/or C_2-C_{12}alkanoyloxy and/or C_3-C_{12}alkenoyloxy;

L_1 is a group selected from the formulae





and



;

L_2 is OH, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkyl; or C_2-C_{12}hydroxyalkoxy;

L_3 independently are C_1-C_4alkylene; and

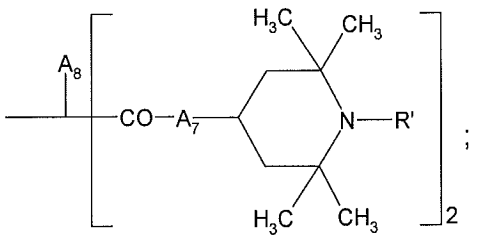
L_4 independently are H or C_1-C_4alkyl.

35. (new): The process according to claim 34, wherein R_2 is methyl, tert-butyl or tert-pentyl;

R_3, R_4 and R_5 independently are hydrogen, methyl, tert-butyl or tert-pentyl;

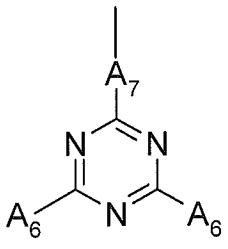
when n is 1,

R_1 is tertiary butyl, tertiary pentyl; C_1-C_{22}alkyl-A_5-; C_2-C_{22}alkyl interrupted by -A_5-; -A_5-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl; -A_4-phenyl where the phenyl core is substituted by C_3-C_4alkenoyloxy and C_1-C_{12}alkyl; or R_1 together with R_5 is C_3-C_{22}alkylene or C_3-C_{22}oxaalkylene attached with both open bonds to adjacent carbon atoms of the mono-hydroxyphenyl moiety; or R_1 is a group of one the formulae



;

-A_3-P(=O)(OA_1)(OA_2); or



;

where

A_1 and A_2 independently are C_1-C_4alkyl or an equivalent of a metal atom selected from Li, Na, K, ½ Mg, ½ Ca and 1/3 Al;

A_3 is methylene;

A_4 is C_1-C_8alkylene;

A_5 is selected from –O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- and -CONH-;

A_6 is selected from C_4-C_{18}alkylthio and C_4-C_{18}alkylamino;

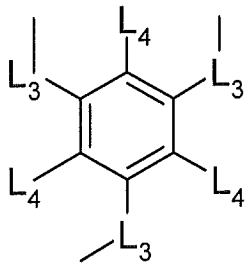
A_7 is –NH-;

A_8 is C_1-C_7alkyl; and

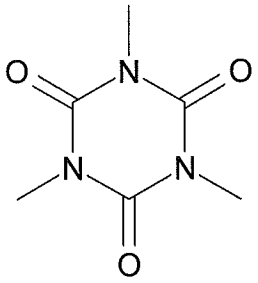
R' is C_1-C_{18}alkyl;

when n is 2, R_1 is C_1-C_{12}alkylene; C_2-C_{20}alkylene interrupted and/or end-capped with –O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH- or -L_1-; or R_1 is a divalent mono-, di- or tricycloalkylene group; or R_1 is –O-; -NH-; or -S-;

when n is 3, R_1 is trivalent alkyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms; said trivalent alkyl interrupted by -O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO-, -CONH-, phenylene or phenylene which is substituted by C_1-C_{12}alkyl; or R_1 is a trivalent group of one of the formulae

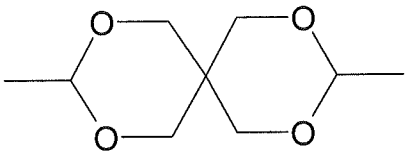


or



;

when n is 4, R_1 is tetravalent alkyl of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; or said tetravalent alkyl interrupted by –O-, -S-, -COO-, -OCO-, -NHCO- or -CONH-; and

L_1 is a group of the formula  ;

L_3 independently are C_1-C_4alkylene; and

L_4 independently are H or C_1-C_4alkyl.

36. (new): The process according to claim 33, wherein the colour former is a triphenylmethane, lactone, benzoxazine, spiropyran, fluoran or phthalide.

37. (new): The process according to claim 33, wherein the polymeric material contains 0.001 to 10 % by weight of component (a), based on the total weight of the polymeric material.

38. (new): The process according to claim 33, wherein the polymeric material contains 0.001 to 10 % by weight of the colour former with respect to the total weight of the polymeric material.

39. (new): The process according to claim 33, wherein the polymeric material contains 0.01 to 5 % by weight of the colour former with respect to the total weight of the polymeric material.

40. (new): The process according to claim 33, wherein the polymeric material is a transparent thermoplast.

41. (new): The process according to claim 33, wherein the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of styrene acrylonitrile copolymer, polyolefin, polyvinylchloride, polychlorobutadiene, polyesters and glycol modified polyesters, polyacrylics, polystyrene, acrylonitrile styrene acrylate copolymer, polyamide, acrylonitrile styrene butadiene copolymer, polycarbonate and blends or alloys thereof.